United Nations A/71/868–S/2017/306

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
12 April 2017

Original: English

General Assembly
Seventy-first session
Agenda item 31
Prevention of armed conflict

Security Council
Seventy-second year

Letter dated 10 April 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement released by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 8 April 2017 with regard to the recent massive U.S. missile attack on Syria (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **Ja** Song Nam
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

17-06011 (E) 250417

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 10 April 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on 8 April 2017 with regard to the U.S. missile attack on Syria

U.S. Missile Attack on Syria Unpardonable

The Trump administration, on 7 April 2017, mounted a massive missile attack on an air force base of the Syrian Government under the pretext that it had killed civilians by using chemical weapons.

A spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry, in a statement on April 8, termed this an act of aggression on a sovereign state that can never be tolerated.

Through the recent U.S. military attack on Syria, the world clearly sees who is the disturber and wrecker of peace.

Successive U.S. administrations have perpetrated strikes only at those countries that do not have nukes, styling themselves a superpower, and the same is true of the Trump administration.

Some forces are loud mouthed, saying that the recent U.S. military attack on Syria is an action of "warning" to the DPRK, but the latter is not frightened by such threat.

What happened in Syria once again taught a bitter lesson that no one should have illusions about the imperialists and that one can defend oneself from imperialist aggression only when one has strength.

Our tremendous military muscle, with a nuclear force as its pivot, serves as a treasured sword of justice for foiling the U.S. shameless high-handed and arbitrary practices and aggressive moves, protecting the sovereignty of the country and the right of the nation to existence.

The reality today goes to prove that any aggression should be countered with force alone and that the DPRK's choice is entirely just as it has bolstered its nuclear force remarkably.

The DPRK will increase its military capability for self-defence in every way to cope with the U.S. evermore reckless moves for a war and will defend itself with its own force.